

1986 regarding the disposition of unused health benefits in cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements and the use of health savings accounts for the payment of health insurance premiums for high deductible health plans purchased in the individual market. **Pages S1027–29**

DeMint Amendment No. 156 (to Amendment No. 100), to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 regarding the disposition of unused health benefits in cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements. **Pages S1035–38**

DeMint Amendment No. 157 (to Amendment No. 100), to increase the Federal minimum wage by an amount that is based on applicable State minimum wages. **Pages S1035–38**

DeMint Amendment No. 158 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 100), to increase the Federal minimum wage by an amount that is based on applicable State minimum wages. **Pages S1035–38**

DeMint Amendment No. 159 (to Amendment No. 100), to protect individuals from having their money involuntarily collected and used for lobbying by a labor organization. **Pages S1035–38**

DeMint Amendment No. 160 (to Amendment No. 100), to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow certain small businesses to defer payment of tax. **Pages S1035–38**

DeMint Amendment No. 161 (to Amendment No. 100), to prohibit the use of flexible schedules by Federal employees unless such flexible schedule benefits are made available to private sector employees not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007. **Pages S1035–38**

DeMint Amendment No. 162 (to Amendment No. 100), to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 regarding the minimum wage. **Pages S1035–38**

Kennedy (for Kerry) Amendment No. 128 (to Amendment No. 100), to direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish a pilot program to provide regulatory compliance assistance to small business concerns. **Page S1042**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 49 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 22), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on McConnell (for Gregg) Amendment No. 101 (to Amendment No. 100) (listed above). **Pages S1018–19**

By 54 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 23), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the bill. **Page S1020**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, January 25, 2007; that there be one hour of debate, equally divided between Senators Kennedy and DeMint on DeMint Amendment No. 158 (listed above); that no amendments to the amendment be in order prior to a vote on, or in relation to, the amendment, and Senate then vote on, or in relation to, the amendment. **Page S1133**

Messages From the House: **Page S1055**

Messages Referred: **Page S1055**

Executive Communications: **Page S1055**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S1056**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1057–58**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1058–80**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1054–55**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1080–S1132**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S1132–33**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1133**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—24) **Pages S1019, S1020, S1043–44**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 7:44 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, January 25, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1133.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

PANDEMIC FLU

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine progress made and challenges ahead relating to pandemic flu, focusing on vaccines, antiviral therapies, and diagnostics, after receiving testimony from Anthony S. Fauci, Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Julie L. Gerberding, Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Gerald W. Parker, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, all of the Department of Health and Human Services.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Lieutenant General

David H. Petraeus, USA, to be General and Commander, Multi-National Forces—Iraq, and 1,125 military nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

AIRLINE INDUSTRY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the potential impact of airline mergers and industry consolidation relating to the state of the airline industry, focusing on the role of the Federal government in the industry's ongoing restructuring, and the prospect of consolidation, after receiving testimony from Senator Isakson; Andrew B. Steinberg, Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Aviation and International Affairs; Gerald Grinstein, Delta Air Lines, Atlanta, Georgia; W. Douglas Parker, US Airways Group, Phoenix, Arizona; Robert Roach, Jr., International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, Upper Marlboro, Maryland; and Mark Cooper, Consumer Federation of America, Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 110th Congress.

CAP AND TRADE SYSTEM PROPOSAL

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee held a hearing to examine an analysis completed by the Energy Information Administration entitled "Energy Market and Economic Impacts of a Proposal to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Intensity with a Cap and Trade System", receiving testimony from Howard Gruenspecht, Deputy Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy; Jason S. Grumet, National Commission on Energy Policy, Daniel A. Lashof, Natural Resources Defense Council, and Anne E. Smith, CRA International, all of Washington, D.C.; and Jeffery E. Sterba, PNM Resources, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Hearing recessed subject to the call.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported an original (S. Res. 38) resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee.

Also, committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 110th Congress and announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on Energy: Senators Dorgan (Chairman), Akaka, Wyden, Johnson, Landrieu, Cantwell, Menendez, Sanders, Tester, Murkowski, Craig, Burr, DeMint, Corker, Sessions, Bunning, and Martinez.

Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests: Senators Wyden (Chairman), Akaka, Johnson, Landrieu, Cantwell, Salazar, Menendez, Lincoln, Sanders, Burr, Craig, Thomas, Murkowski, DeMint, Sessions, Smith, and Bunning.

Subcommittee on National Parks: Senators Akaka (Chairman), Dorgan, Landrieu, Salazar, Menendez, Lincoln, Sanders, Tester, Thomas, Murkowski, Burr, Corker, Sessions, Smith, and Martinez.

Subcommittee on Water and Power: Senators Johnson (Chairman), Dorgan, Wyden, Cantwell, Salazar, Lincoln, Tester, Corker, Craig, Thomas, DeMint, Smith, and Bunning.

Senators Bingaman and Domenici are ex officio members of each of the Subcommittees.

NOMINATION

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Michael J. Astrue, of Massachusetts, to be Commissioner of Social Security, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Kerry, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported S. Con. Res. 2, expressing the bipartisan resolution on Iraq.

Also, Senate committee announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on African Affairs: Senators Feingold (Chair), Nelson (FL), Obama, Cardin, Webb, Sununu, Coleman, Vitter, and Hagel.

Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs: Senators Boxer (Chair), Kerry, Feingold, Obama, Webb, Murkowski, Isakson, Vitter, and Hagel.

Subcommittee on European Affairs: Senators Obama (Chair), Dodd, Menendez, Cardin, Casey, DeMint, Voinovich, Corker, and Murkowski.

Subcommittee on Near East and South and Central Asian Affairs: Senators Kerry (Chair), Dodd, Feingold, Boxer, Cardin, Coleman, Hagel, Sununu, and Voinovich.

Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps, and Narcotics Affairs: Senators Dodd (Chair), Kerry, Nelson (FL), Menendez, Webb, Corker, Isakson, Coleman, and Sununu.

Subcommittee on International Development and Foreign Assistance, Economic Affairs and International Environmental Protection: Senators Menendez (Chair), Kerry, Boxer, Obama, Casey, Hagel, Corker, Murkowski, and DeMint.

Subcommittee on International Operations and Organizations, Democracy and Human Rights: Senators Nelson (FL) (Chair), Feingold, Menendez, Casey, Webb, Vitter, Voinovich, DeMint, and Isakson.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee.

Also, committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 110th Congress.